GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3605
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2001
TELEPHONE FACILITIES TO PANCHAYATS
BIR SING MAHATO

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have provided telephone facilities to all the Gram Panchayats in the country;

(b) if so, the number of Gram Panchayats in West Bengal where telephone facility has not been provided so far district-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to provide better telephone service to the Gram Panchayats?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) In West Bengal, telecom facility has already been provided to all the Gram panchayats.

(c) New technologies like Wireless in Local Loop (WLL), CDOT TDMA/PMP and satellite are being inducted for covering remaining Gram Panchayats in the country. Faulty Multi Access Radio Relay (MARR) based village public telephones are planned to be replaced by new technology equipment progressively subject to availability of funds.